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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 IOE-00
ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 L-03 PA-01 AF-08 ARA-06
EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /097 W
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P R 291649Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8328
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 38200

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: APUB, SCUL, UR
SUBJECT: UNESCO COURIER BICENTENNIAL ISSUES

REF: (A) STATE 279533, (B) STATE 280102, (C) MOSCOW
17869, (D) MOSCOW 17989

1. FOLLOWING IS ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF LETTER
FROM UNESCO SECRETARIATE TO I.N. ZEMSKOV, CHAIRMAN
USSR NATIONAL COMMISSION CONCERNING UNAUTHORIZED ALTER-
ATION OF UNESCO COURIER. ORIGINAL TEXT IN FRENCH BEING
POUCHED DEPARTMENT. LETTER DATED NOV. 17, 1976.

BEGIN QUOTE: IN THE CAPACITY OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
GENERAL FOR PROGRAM SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION, RES-
PONSIBLE FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, I WAS
VERY SURPRISED TO LEARN ABOUT THE RUSSIAN EDITION OF THE
UNESCO COURIER THAT WAS DEDICATED TO THE BICENTENNIAL
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THIS ISSUE CONTAINS TWO SUPPLEMENTARY ARTICLES FOR
WHICH NO PRELIMINARY AUTHORIZATION OF THEIR PUBLICA-
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TION WAS GIVEN BY THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF THE COURIER
AT HEADQUARTERS. IT CONTAINS AN ARTICLE SIGNED BY MR.
G.A. ARBATOV, ACADEMICIAN AND DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITU-
TION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA OF THE
ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE USSR, AND A TEXT BY MR.
BODGANOV, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE SAME INSTITUTION.

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THIS AFFAIR IS MORE SERIOUS IN THAT THE TWO ARTICLES CONTAIN TERMS WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS HAVING AN OFFENSIVE NATURE TOWARDS A MEMBER STATE AND HARM THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG THE PEOPLES WHO INSPIRE THE OPERATION OF OUR ORGANIZATION. IN THIS REGARD, I WISH TO RECALL THE "DIRECTIVES CONCERNING THE CONTENTS OF UNESCO PUBLICATIONS" APPROVED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF RESOLUTION 4.111 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AT ITS 13TH SESSION, ESPECIALLY TO PARAGRAPH 2.3 (A) BY WHICH PUBLICATIONS SHOULD INSPIRE PRINCIPLES OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND EQUITY BETWEEN MEMBER STATES AS WELL AS BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION AND ITS MEMBER STATES, AND AVOID PUBLICATION OF ANY TEXT WHICH MIGHT HAVE AN OFFENSIVE NATURE IN REGARD TO MEMBER STATES.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE SECRETARIATE ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE LINGUISTIC EDITIONS OF THE COURIER BEING MAINTAINED SCRUPULOUSLY IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THIS REVUE'S UNIVERSAL CHARACTER OF MUTUAL COMPREHENSION AND RESPECT OF THE PEOPLES.

IN ORDER THAT I MAY PROVIDE THE DIRECTOR GENERAL WITH ALL THE ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION WHICH WOULD ENABLE HIM TO REPLY TO POSSIBLE REPRESENTATIONS OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, I WOULD BE GREATLY OBLIGED, EXCELLENCY, IF YOU WOULD LET ME KNOW SOONEST, AND PREFERABLY BEFORE THE END OF THE PRESENT SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, THE REASONS WHICH LED THE USSR NATIONAL COMMISSION AND CONFIDENTIAL

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THE RUSSIAN EDITORIAL OFFICE OF THE UNESCO COURIER TO ADD TWO ARTICLES TO THE ISSUE ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION AND CONTRARY TO THE STIPULATIONS IN ARTICLE VI OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH LINKS THE USSR NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO WITH THE ORGANIZATION. IN TERMS OF THE EXPLANATION WHICH I KINDLY ASK YOU TO GIVE ME, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL WILL STUDY THE CONSEQUENCES WHICH HE DEEMS NECESSARY TO CONCLUDE FROM THIS DEPLORABLE AFFAIR AND WHICH I HOPE WILL NOT CHANGE THE RELATIONS THAT YOUR COMMISSION PRESENTLY HAS WITH THE SECRETARIAT. (SIGNED JACQUES RIGAUD) UNQUOTE GAMMON

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